

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 492

By Helton

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Reverend Billy Dean of East Ridge.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Reverend Billy Dean; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Dean was a man of great faith and an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong resident of Hamilton County, Reverend Billy Dean was a beloved man of God whose influential pastorate spanned more than seventy-one years; and

WHEREAS, called to the ministry at the age of only seventeen, Reverend Dean began pastoring Shany Town Baptist Church in Sand Mountain that same year; by the time he retired in 2009, he had served as pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Philadelphia Baptist Church (twice), Beacon Baptist Church, Palmer First Baptist Church, Marantha Baptist Church, and Frawley Road Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Billy Dean also served for more than thirty years as a member of the Chattanooga Police Department, earning the respect and admiration of his peers and a grateful public for his integrity and devotion to service; and

WHEREAS, committed to serving his community in various capacities, he was a member of the East Ridge Masonic Lodge #755, Alhambra Shrine Temple, Scottish Rite, East Ridge Old Timers, Kiwanis Club, Half Century Club, Hamilton County Baptist Association, East Ridge Ministerial Association, and East Ridge Education Committee; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Billy Dean was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he is survived by his son, Hamilton County Criminal Court Clerk Vince (Debbie) Dean; granddaughter, Sallie Dean; brother, James Reuben (Peggy) Dean; and special friends, Bill Giffe and Brianna Layne; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Jo Dean; his sister, Virginia Mitts; and his brothers, Thomas Dean, Laddie Dean, and Samuel Dean; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Billy Dean leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Reverend Billy Dean, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Reverend Dean.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.